

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing method in an  
information processing apparatus which can communicate  
with a print management apparatus via the Internet,  
5 comprising:

an input step of, when a print order is  
transmitted to said print management apparatus,  
inputting an uploading instruction so that the print  
order is transmitted to said print management apparatus  
10 and managed without performing a printing process;

an uploading step of, when said uploading  
instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to  
said print management apparatus via the Internet; and

a print ordering step of transmitting a print  
15 ordering request of one or more print orders which were  
designated by the user and should be print-ordered  
among the print orders uploaded in said print  
management apparatus to said print management apparatus  
via the Internet.

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2. A method according to claim 1, further  
comprising a list obtaining step of accessing said  
print management apparatus via the Internet and  
obtaining an order list of the print orders uploaded in  
25 said print management apparatus,

and wherein in said print ordering step, the print  
ordering request of one or more print orders which were

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designated by the user and should be print-ordered from the obtained order list of the print orders is transmitted to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

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3. A method according to claim 1, further comprising a print order forming step of forming the print order for making the print ordering to said print management apparatus on the basis of print target data  
10 formed by an application.

4. A method according to claim 3, further comprising a printer information obtaining step of obtaining a printer information description file from  
15 said print management apparatus via the Internet,

and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order is formed on the basis of a print setting described in the obtained printer information description file.

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5. A method according to claim 3, further comprising a shop information obtaining step of obtaining a shop information file from said print management apparatus via the Internet,

25 and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order including a shop name based on the obtained shop information file.

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6. A print control program which can be executed by an information processing apparatus which can communicate with a print management apparatus via the Internet, comprising:

5           an input step of, when a print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus, inputting an uploading instruction so that the print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus and managed without performing a printing process;

10           an uploading step of, when said uploading instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to said print management apparatus via the Internet; and

            a print ordering step of transmitting a print ordering request of one or more print orders which were  
15           designated by the user and should be print-ordered among the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

20           7. A program according to claim 6, further comprising a list obtaining step of accessing said print management apparatus via the Internet and obtaining an order list of the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus,

25           and wherein in said print ordering step, the print ordering request of one or more print orders which were designated by the user and should be print-ordered from

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the obtained order list of the print orders is transmitted to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

5           8. A program according to claim 6, further comprising a print order forming step of forming the print order for making the print ordering to said print management apparatus on the basis of print target data formed by an application.

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          9. A program according to claim 8, further comprising a printer information obtaining step of obtaining a printer information description file from said print management apparatus via the Internet,

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          and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order is formed on the basis of a print setting described in the obtained printer information description file.

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          10. A program according to claim 8, further comprising a shop information obtaining step of obtaining a shop information file from said print management apparatus via the Internet,

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          and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order including a shop name based on the obtained shop information file.

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11. An information processing apparatus which can communicate with a print management apparatus via the Internet, comprising:

inputting means for, when a print order is  
5 transmitted to said print management apparatus,  
inputting an uploading instruction so that the print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus and managed without performing a printing process;

uploading means for, when said uploading  
10 instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to said print management apparatus via the Internet; and

print ordering means for transmitting a print ordering request of one or more print orders which were designated by the user and should be print-ordered  
15 among the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

12. A print management method in a print  
20 management apparatus which can communicate with a client via the Internet, comprising:

a print order receiving step of receiving a print order from the client;

a print order managing step of managing the  
25 received print order in correspondence to user identification information of the client without performing a printing process;

a searching step of searching the print order to be returned as an order list of the print orders among the print orders managed in said print order managing step with reference to the user identification information of said client in accordance with a request from the client; and

an order list returning step of returning the order list including said searched print order to the client who requested.

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13. A method according to claim 12, wherein in said print order managing step, the received print order is further managed in correspondence to shop identification information which is included in the print order and shows a shop which should perform the printing process, and

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in said searching step, the print order for the shop shown by the shop identification information is searched among the print orders managed in said print order managing step with reference to the shop identification information designated by the client in accordance with a request from the client.

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14. A method according to claim 12, further comprising:

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a print order receiving step of receiving a print ordering instruction for designating one or more print

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orders from the client in accordance with the order  
list returned to the client; and

5 a transmission control step of controlling so as  
to transmit the one or more print orders designated by  
the received print ordering instruction to the  
designated shop.

10 15. A print control program which can be executed  
by a print management apparatus which can communicate  
with a client via the Internet, comprising:

a print order receiving step of receiving a print  
order from the client;

15 a print order managing step of managing the  
received print order in correspondence to user  
identification information of the client without  
performing a printing process;

20 a searching step of searching the print order to  
be returned as an order list of the print orders among  
the print orders managed in said print order managing  
step with reference to the user identification  
information of said client in accordance with a request  
from the client; and

25 an order list returning step of returning the  
order list including said searched print order to the  
client who requested.

16. A program according to claim 15, wherein

in said print order managing step, the received  
print order is further managed in correspondence to  
shop identification information which is included in  
the print order and shows a shop which should perform  
5 the printing process, and

in said searching step, the print order for the  
shop shown by the shop identification information is  
searched among the print orders managed in said print  
order managing step with reference to the shop  
10 identification information designated by the client in  
accordance with a request from the client.

17. A program according to claim 15, further  
comprising:

15 a print order receiving step of receiving a print  
ordering instruction for designating one or more print  
orders from the client in accordance with the order  
list returned to the client; and

a transmission control step of controlling so as  
20 to transmit the one or more print orders designated by  
the received print ordering instruction to the  
designated shop.

18. A print management apparatus which can  
25 communicate with a client via the Internet, comprising:

print order receiving means for receiving a print  
order from the client;

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print order managing means for managing the received print order in correspondence to user identification information of the client without performing a printing process;

5            searching means for searching the print order to be returned as an order list of the print orders among the print orders managed by said print order managing means with reference to the user identification information of said client in accordance with a request  
10          from the client; and

            order list returning means for returning the order list including said searched print order to the client who requested.

15           19. A print control system in which an information processing apparatus and a print management apparatus can communicate with each other via the Internet,

            wherein said information processing apparatus  
20          comprises:

            inputting means for, when a print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus, inputting an uploading instruction so that the print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus  
25          and managed without performing a printing process;

            uploading means for, when said uploading instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to

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said print management apparatus via the Internet; and  
print ordering means for transmitting a print  
ordering request of one or more print orders which were  
designated by the user and should be print-ordered  
5 among the print orders uploaded in said print  
management apparatus to said print management apparatus  
via the Internet, and

said print management apparatus comprises:

order managing means for managing the print order  
10 uploaded from said information processing apparatus;  
and

control means for specifying the print order  
managed by said order managing means with reference to  
the print ordering request transmitted from said  
15 information processing apparatus and controlling so as  
to transmit the specified print order to a shop which  
should perform a printing process.

20. A print control system in which an  
20 information processing apparatus and a print management  
apparatus can communicate with each other via the  
Internet,

wherein said information processing apparatus  
comprises:

25 uploading means for uploading a print order to  
said print management apparatus; and

requesting means for requesting an order list of

the print orders from said print management apparatus,  
and

said print management apparatus comprises:

print order receiving means for receiving a print  
5 order from said information processing apparatus;

print order managing means for managing the  
received print order in correspondence to user  
identification information of a client without  
performing a printing process;

10 searching means for searching the print order to  
be returned as an order list of the print orders among  
the print orders managed by said print order managing  
means with reference to the user identification  
information of said client in accordance with a request  
15 from said client; and

order list returning means for returning the order  
list including said searched print order to the client  
who requested.

20 21. An information processing method in an  
information processing apparatus which can communicate  
with a print management apparatus via the Internet,  
comprising:

an input requesting step of, when a print order is  
25 transmitted to said print management apparatus,  
promoting an input of an alternative instruction of a  
print ordering instruction for issuing the print order

as it is after the print order was transmitted to said  
print management apparatus or an uploading instruction  
for allowing the print order to be transmitted to said  
print management apparatus and managed without issuing  
5 the print order;

an uploading step of, when said uploading  
instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to  
said print management apparatus via the Internet; and

10 a print ordering step of transmitting a print  
ordering request of one or more print orders which were  
designated by the user and should be print-ordered  
among the print orders uploaded in said print  
management apparatus to said print management apparatus  
via the Internet.

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22. A method according to claim 21, further  
comprising a list obtaining step of accessing said  
print management apparatus via the Internet and  
obtaining an order list of the print orders uploaded in  
20 said print management apparatus,

and wherein in said print ordering step, the print  
ordering request of one or more print orders which were  
designated by the user and should be print-ordered from  
the obtained order list of the print orders is  
25 transmitted to said print management apparatus via the  
Internet.

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23. A method according to claim 21, further comprising a print order forming step of forming the print order for making the print ordering to said print management apparatus on the basis of print target data  
5 formed by an application.

24. A method according to claim 23, further comprising a printer information obtaining step of obtaining a printer information description file from  
10 said print management apparatus via the Internet,  
and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order is formed on the basis of a print setting described in the obtained printer information description file.

25. A method according to claim 23, further comprising a shop information obtaining step of obtaining a shop information file from said print management apparatus via the Internet,  
15 and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order including a shop name based on the obtained shop information file.

26. A print control program which can be executed  
25 by an information processing apparatus which can communicate with a print management apparatus via the Internet, comprising:

an input requesting step of, when a print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus, promoting an input of an alternative instruction of a print ordering instruction for issuing the print order as it is after the print order was transmitted to said print management apparatus or an uploading instruction for allowing the print order to be transmitted to said print management apparatus and managed without issuing the print order;

an uploading step of, when said uploading instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to said print management apparatus via the Internet; and a print ordering step of transmitting a print ordering request of one or more print orders which were designated by the user and should be print-ordered among the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

27. A program according to claim 26, further comprising a list obtaining step of accessing said print management apparatus via the Internet and obtaining an order list of the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus,

and wherein in said print ordering step, the print ordering request of one or more print orders which were designated by the user and should be print-ordered from

the obtained order list of the print orders is transmitted to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

5           28. A program according to claim 26, further comprising a print order forming step of forming the print order for making the print ordering to said print management apparatus on the basis of print target data formed by an application.

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          29. A program according to claim 28, further comprising a printer information obtaining step of obtaining a printer information description file from said print management apparatus via the Internet,

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          and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order is formed on the basis of a print setting described in the obtained printer information description file.

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          30. A program according to claim 28, further comprising a shop information obtaining step of obtaining a shop information file from said print management apparatus via the Internet,

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          and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order including a shop name based on the obtained shop information file.

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31. An information processing apparatus which can communicate with a print management apparatus via the Internet, comprising:

input requesting means for, when a print order is  
5 transmitted to said print management apparatus,  
promoting an input of an alternative instruction of a  
print ordering instruction for issuing the print order  
as it is after the print order was transmitted to said  
print management apparatus or an uploading instruction  
10 for allowing the print order to be transmitted to said  
print management apparatus and managed without issuing  
the print order;

uploading means for, when said uploading  
instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to  
15 said print management apparatus via the Internet; and

print ordering means for transmitting a print  
ordering request of one or more print orders which were  
designated by the user and should be print-ordered  
among the print orders uploaded in said print  
20 management apparatus to said print management apparatus  
via the Internet.

32. A print management method in a print  
management apparatus which can communicate with a  
25 client via the Internet, comprising:

a discriminating step of discriminating whether a  
print order which is received from the client is a

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print ordering order for allowing the print order to be  
issued as it is after the print order was received or  
an uploading order for allowing the print order to be  
managed after the print order was received without  
5 issuing the print order;

a transmission control step of, if it is  
determined that the print order is said print ordering  
order, controlling so as to transmit the received print  
order as a print order to a designated shop;

10 a print order managing step of, if it is  
determined that the print order is said uploading  
order, managing the received print order in  
correspondence to user identification information of  
the client without issuing the print order; and

15 a print order receiving step of specifying a  
plurality of print orders to be transmitted to the  
designated shop as print orders among the print orders  
which have already been managed in the print order  
managing step in accordance with a print ordering  
20 request of one time from the client and allowing the  
print ordering process of the print order in the  
transmission control step to be executed with respect  
to the specified plurality of print orders.

25 33. A method according to claim 32, further  
comprising:

a searching step of searching the print order to

be returned as an order list of the print orders among the print orders managed in said print order managing step with reference to the user identification information of said client in accordance with a request  
5 from the client; and

an order list returning step of returning the order list including said searched print order to the client who requested.

10 34. A method according to claim 33, wherein in said print order receiving step, the print ordering instruction of one time for designating said plurality of print orders is received from the client in accordance with the order list returned to the client  
15 in said order list returning step.

35. A print control program which can be executed by a print management apparatus which can communicate with a client via the Internet, comprising:

20 a discriminating step of discriminating whether a print order which is received from the client is a print ordering order for allowing the print order to be issued as it is after the print order was received or an uploading order for allowing the print order to be  
25 managed after the print order was received without issuing the print order;

a transmission control step of, if it is

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determined that the print order is said print ordering order, controlling so as to transmit the received print order as a print order to a designated shop;

5 a print order managing step of, if it is determined that the print order is said uploading order, managing the received print order in correspondence to user identification information of the client without issuing the print order; and

10 a print order receiving step of specifying a plurality of print orders to be transmitted to the designated shop as print orders among the print orders which have already been managed in the print order managing step in accordance with a print ordering request of one time from the client and allowing the  
15 print ordering process of the print order in the transmission control step to be executed with respect to the specified plurality of print orders.

20 36. A program according to claim 35, further comprising:

a searching step of searching the print order to be returned as an order list of the print orders among the print orders managed in said print order managing step with reference to the user identification  
25 information of said client in accordance with a request from the client; and

an order list returning step of returning the

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order list including said searched print order to the client who requested.

37. A program according to claim 36, wherein in  
5 said print order receiving step, the print ordering instruction of one time for designating said plurality of print orders is received from the client in accordance with the order list returned to the client in said order list returning step.

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38. A print management apparatus which can communicate with a client via the Internet, comprising:

discriminating means for discriminating whether a  
print order which is received from the client is a  
15 print ordering order for allowing the print order to be issued as it is after the print order was received or an uploading order for allowing the print order to be managed after the print order was received without issuing the print order;

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transmission control means for, if it is determined that the print order is said print ordering order, controlling so as to transmit the received print order as a print order to a designated shop;

print order managing means for, if it is  
25 determined that the print order is said uploading order, managing the received print order in correspondence to user identification information of

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the client without issuing the print order; and

print order receiving means for specifying a plurality of print orders to be transmitted to the designated shop as print orders among the print orders which have already been managed by the print order managing means in accordance with a print ordering request of one time from the client and allowing the print ordering process of the print order in the transmission control step to be executed with respect to the specified plurality of print orders.

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